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Contributions of "Letters to the Editor"

The Editorial Board will be glad to receive and consider for publica-tion letters containing information of general interest to physicians throughout the State or presenting constructive criticisms on contro-versial issues of the day.

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the study, the reason for the elimination is stated and the elimination is made before randomization. Frequently voiced misgivings as to whether patients and referring physicians would accept such a program have proved groundless. The program has had the most careful and repetitive scrutiny at the National Institutes of Health, and I think we can look forward to some valuable results in years ahead.

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BOOKS RECEIVED

Books received by California Medicine are acknowledged in this column. Selections will be made for more extensive review in the interest of readers as space permits.

ADVANCES IN ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHY—Volume I—Cardiovascular Diseases—Current Status and Advances (Series Consultants: J. Willis Hurst, MD, Professor and Chairman, Department of Medicine, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, and Dean T. Mason, MD, Professor, Departments of Medicine and Physiology, and Chief, Section of Cardiovascular Medicine, University of California, Davis, School of Medicine)—Edited by Robert C. Schlant, MD, Professor of Medicine and Director, Division of Cardiology, and J. Willis Hurst, MD, Professor and Chairman, Department of Medicine, both Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta; with 32 contributors. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 111 Fifth Ave., New York City (10003), 1972. 464 pages, \$24.75.

BODY, MIND, AND THE B VITAMINS—Ruth Adams and Frank Murray. Larchmont Books, 25 West 45th St., New York City (10036). 1972. 256 pages, \$1.50 (Paperback).

BONE TUMORS—Fourth Edition—Louis Lichtenstein, MD. Clinical Professor of Pathology, University of California, San Francisco; Professor Extraordinario, National University of Mexico. The C. V. Mosby Company, 11830 Westline Industrial Drive, St. Louis, Mo. (63141), 1972. 441 pages, 496 illustrations in 252 figures, \$24.50.

CANCER—The Wayward Cell—Its Origins, Nature, and Treatment—Victor Richards, MD. University of California Press, 2223 Fulton Street, Berkeley, Ca. (94720), 1972. 328 pages, \$8.50.

CLINICAL CONCEPTS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES—Authored and Edited by Leighton E. Cluff, MD, Professor of Medicine, Chairman, Department of Medicine, University of Florida College of Medicine, Gainesville, Joseph E. Johnson, III, MD, Professor of Medicine, Head, Division of Infectious Diseases and Clinical Immunology, Department of Medicine, University of Florida College of Medicine, Gainesville. The Williams & Wilkins Company, 428 E. Preston, Baltimore (21202), 1972. 421 pages, \$16.50.

COMPUTERS IN MEDICINE—Proceedings of the Second International Symposium held at Blackburn College of Technology and Design on 16th and 17th March 1971—Edited by J. Rose, PhD, FRIC, FIL, MBIM, M INST C SC, Director-General, World Organisation of General Systems and Cybernetics. The Williams & Wilkins Company, 428 E. Preston Street, Baltimore (21202), 1972. 166 pages, \$13.25.

CORE TEXTBOOK OF SURGERY—Edited by Richard H. Egdahl, MD, Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, Boston University School of Medicine; John A. Mannick, MD, Professor of Surgery, Boston University School of Medicine; Lester F. Williams, Jr., MD, Professor of Surgery, Boston University School of Medicine. Grune & Stratton, Inc., Medical and Scientific Publishers, 111 Fifth Avenue, New York City (10003), 1972. 484 pages, \$8.75 (softcover), \$13.50 (hardcover).

CURRENT PEDIATRIC DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT—Second Edition—C. Henry Kempe, MD, Professor of Pediatrics and Chairman, Department of Pediatrics; Henry K. Silver, MD, Professor of Pediatrics; and Donough O'Brien, MD, FRCP, all from the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver; and Associate Authors. Lange Medical Publications, Drawer L, Los Altos, Ca. (94022), 1972. 1008 pages, \$12.00.

(Continued on Page 54)

- Intercommunity Hospital, Huntington Beach; Fairview State Hospital, Costa Mesa; Metropolitan State Hospital, Norwalk; South Coast Community Hospital, Laguna Beach. Contact: UCI.
- Continuously—Lecture Program. Riverside-San Bernardino Chapter, American Academy of General Practice and UCI at Ram's Horn Inn, San Bernardino. 3rd Thursday of each month. 7:30 p.m. Contact: UCI.
- Continuously—Professional Education Program. Porterville State Hospital. Contact: Frank McCarry, MD, P.O. Box 2000, Porterville. (209) 784-2000.
- Continuously—The Care of the Critically III Patient. Merced-Mariposa County Medical Society and STAN at Merced General Hospital, Merced. April 1972 through June 1973. 9:00-11:00 a.m. \$25. April 11—Obstetrical Emergencies, May 10—Injuries to Hand and Face. Contact: Mrs. Iva D. Rutledge, Exec. Secy., P.O. Box 549, Merced 95340.
- Continuously—Workshops for Family Physicians. UCSD and RMP Area VII. November 1972 through May 1973. First and Second Wednesday of each month. 7:00-10:30 p.m. \$25 per lecture. 7 hrs. each.
- Continuously—Round Tables with Pacific Medical Center. PMC and Sonoma Valley Hospital at Sonoma Valley Hospital, Sonoma. Second Monday of each month in Dining Room of the hospital, 8:00-10:00 p.m. \$100 per series, \$15 per session. Contact: William J. Newman, MD, P.O. Box B, Sonoma 95476. (707) 996-3621.
- Continuously—Basic Science Lecture Series. UCSD. Mondays, 4:00 p.m., third floor conference room, University Hospital of San Diego County, San Diego. Contact: UCSD.
- Continuously—Audio-Digest Foundation. A non-profit subsidiary of CMA. Twice-a-month tape recorded summaries of leading national meetings and surveys of current literature. Services by subscription in: General Practice, Surgery, Internal Medicine, Ob/Gyn, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Anesthesiology, Ophthalmology, Otorhinolaryngology. Catalog of lectures and panel discussions in all areas of medical practice also available. \$75 per year. Contact: Mr. Claron L. Oakley, Editor, Suite 700, 1930 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90057. (213) 483-3451.
- Continuously—Medical Media Network. Programs and study guides produced in association with faculties of major medical schools and centers throughout California. MMN administered by University Extension, UCLA. Subscriptions for all California hospitals, rental or purchase, 16 mm, super 8 mm, one-inch videotape. Provides physicians throughout the state with current educational programs in local hospitals. Consult the nearest MMN Hospital regarding time and date for viewing. Contact: Kathryn Alexander, Commun. Coord., MMN, 10995 Le Conte Ave., Los Angeles 90024. (213) 825-1791.
- Continuously—Stanford Speaker's Bureau for Environmental Topics. Stanford University Committee for Environmental Information. Provides on request speakers and programs on environmental topics. Air pollution, water pollution and water conservation issues, radiation hazards and radiation technology, pesticides and their ecological problems, medicine's responsibilities in the environmental-ecology crisis and others. Contact: STAN.
- Continuously—Stanford-Mills Memorial Hospital Continuing Education Program. STAN at Mills Memorial Hospital, San Mateo. Tuesday-Friday weekly. Basic Science for the Clinician, Grand Rounds, Intensive Care. Contact: STAN.

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- CURRENT PSYCHIATRIC THERAPIES—Volume 12—Edited by Jules H. Masserman, MD, Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology, Northwestern University, Chicago. Grune & Stratton, Inc., Medical and Scientific Publishers, 111 Fifth Avenue, New York City (10003), 1972. 264 pages, \$16.00.
- THE CYTOLOGIC DIAGNOSIS OF CANCER—Third Edition—Ruth M. Grahaam. The Heyman Laboratory, Buffalo, N.Y. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia (19105), 1972. 476 pages, 442 illustrations (34 in color), \$20.10.
- DISORDERS OF THE RESPIRATORY TRACT IN CHILDREN—Volume I—Pulmonary Disorders—Second Edition—Edited by Edwin L. Kendig, Jr., MD, Professor of Pediatrics, Medical College of Virginia, Health Sciences Division, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia (19105), 1972, 852 pages, \$32.50.
- EATER'S DIGEST—The Consumer's Factbook of Food Additives—Michael F. Jacobson, Doubleday & Co., Inc., 100 Park Avenue, New York City (10017), 1972. 260 pages, \$5.95.
- EMERGENCY ROOM CARE—The Twenty-Third Hahnemann Symposium—Edited by Wilbur W. Oaks, MD, Professor and Acting Chairman, Department of Medicine; Stanley Spitzer, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine; and General Editor John H. Moyer, MD, Professor, Department of Medicine and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, all Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital, Philadelphia. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 111 Fifth Ave., New York City (10003), 1972. 300 pages, \$18.50.
- FOLATE ANTAGONISTS AS CHEMOTHERAPEUTIC AGENTS—Volume 186 of Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences—Editor: Joseph R. Bertino, MD. The New York Academy of Sciences, 2 East 63rd Street, New York City (10021), 1971. 519 pages, \$27.00 (Paperback).
- FOOD ALLERGY—Its Manifestation and Control and the Elimination Diets—A Compendium—Albert H. Rowe, MD, Lecturer in Medicine (Emeritus), University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco, Allergist, Samuel Merritt Hospital, Oakland, California; in collaboration with Albert Rowe, Jr., MD, Department of Medicine, Highland Hospital and Samuel Merritt Hospital, Oakland. Charles C. Thomas, Publisher, 301-327 East Lawrence Avenue, Springfield, II (62703), 1972. 687 pages \$20.00.
- FUNDAMENTALS OF THE TRACER METHOD—Teresa J. C. Welch, MS, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Lindenwood College, St. Charles, Mo.; E. James Potchen, MD, Professor of Radiology, Director of Nuclear Medicine, and Michael J. Welch, PhD, Associate Professor of Radiation Chemistry in Radiology, both Mallinck-rodt Institute of Radiology, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Mo. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia (19105), 1972. 187 pages, illustrated, \$9.75.
- A GUIDE TO BEHAVIORAL ANALYSIS AND THERAPY—Robert Paul Liberman, MD, Research Psychiatrist, Center for the Study of Behavioral Disorders, Camarillo State Hospital, Camarillo, California, and Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, UCLA, School of Medicine, Pergamon Press, Inc., Maxwell House, Fairview Park, Elmsford, N.Y. (10523), 1972. 343 pages, \$5.50 (softcover), \$9.50 (hardcover).
- GUIDE TO DRUG REHABILITATION—A Public Health Approach—Roger E. Meyer, MD; Foreword by Jerome H. Jaffe, MD. Beacon Press, 25 Beacon Street, Boston (02108), 1972. 171 pages, \$5.95.
- HANDBOOK OF PHARMACOLOGY—The Actions and Uses of Drugs—Fifth Edition. Windsor C. Cutting, MD, Dean, School of Medicine, and Professor of Pharmacology, University of Hawaii. Appleton-Century-Crofts, Educational Division, Meredith Corporation, 440 Park Avenue South, New York City (10016), 1972. 659 pages, \$9.95.
- HELP YOURSELF TO HEALTH—Linda A. Clark, MA, Pyramid House, Pyramid Publication, 919 Third Avenue, New York City (10022), 1972. 267 pages, \$7.95.
- HUMAN STRUCTURE—A Companion to Anatomical Studies—C. Roland Leeson, MD, PhD, Professor and Chairman, Department of Anatomy, The University of Missouri School of Medicine, Columbia; Thomas S. Leeson, MD, PhD, Professor and Chairman, Department of Anatomy, University of Alberta, Faculty of Medicine, Edmonton, Alberta. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia (19105), 1972. 383 pages, \$11.00.
- ILLUSTRATED HUMAN EMBRYOLOGY—Volume I—Embryogene-sis—H. Tuchmann-Duplessis, MD, PhD, Professor, University of Paris Medical School, Paris, G. David, MD, Associate Professor, University of Paris Medical School; P. Haegel, MD, Assistant Professor, University of Paris Medical School. Springer-Verlag, New York, Inc., 175 Fifth Avenue, New York City (10010), 1972. 110 pages with 226 figures, \$6.80 (soft cover).
- INCREASED INTRACRANIAL PRESSURE IN CHILDREN—William E. Bell, MD, Professor, Departments of Pediatrics and Neurology, Director, Section of Pediatric Neurology, The University of Iowa College of Medicine, Iowa City; William F. McCormick, MD, Professor, Departments of Neurology and Pathology, and Chief, Division of Neuropathology, The University of Iowa College of Medicine, Iowa City.—Volume VIII in the Series—Major Problems in Clinical Pediatrics—Alexander J. Schaffer, Consulting Editor. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia (19105), 1972. 260 pages, \$16.00.

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MALNUTRITION—Its Causation and Control—Volumes 1 and 2—John R. K. Robson, School of Public Health, University of Michigan; in collaboration with Frances A. Larkin, Anita M. Sandretto and Brahram Tadayyon. Gordon and Breach, Science Publishers, Inc., 440 Park Avenue South, New York City (10016), 1972. 311 pages, no price listed.

MENTAL RETARDATION—IV—An Annual Review—Edited by Joseph Wortis, MD, Director of Developmental Services and Studies, Department of Psychiatry, Malmonides Medical Center, Brooklyn, N.Y. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 111 Fifth Ave., New York City (10003), 1972. 234 pages, \$15.75.

ATHEROSCLEROSIS AND CORONARY HEART DISEASE—Edited by William Likoff, MD, Clinical Professor of Medicine, Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Bernard L. Segal, MD, Clinical Professor of Medicine and Director of Postgraduate Education, Division of Cardiology, Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital, Philadelphia; and William Insull, Jr., MD, Associate Professor of Pathology, Cornell University Medical College, and Adjunct Associate Professor, The Rockefeller University, New York, Grune & Stratton, Inc., Publishers, 111 Fifth Avenue, New York City (10003), 1972. 532 pages, \$29.75.

CARDIAC SURGERY—Second Edition—Edited by John C. Norman, MD. Appleton-Century-Crofts, Educational Division, Meredith Corporation, 440 Park Avenue South, New York City (10016), 1972. 703 pages, \$18.95.

CHEMICAL INSTRUMENTATION: A Laboratory Manual Based on Clinical Chemistry—Gary T. Bender, PhD, Associate Professor of Chemistry, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, Consultant to the Clinical Laboratories, St. Francis Hospital and Lutheran Hospital, La Crosse. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia (19105), 1972. 291 pages, \$9.50.

A CONCISE TEXTBOOK OF ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY APPLIED FOR ORTHOPAEDIC NURSES—Third Edition—Joyce W. Rowe, SRN, SCM, ONC, Senior Nursing Officer (Teaching Department), Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, Middlesex; Victor H. Wheble, MA, BM, BCh (Oxon), FRCS Ed, Consultant Traumatic and Orthopaedic Surgeon, Ashton-under-Lyne General Hospital, Lancashire, Chairman of the Board of Studies, Association of Occupational Therapists, Lecturer for the Diploma of Nursing (London University), at Stockport College of Technology. The Williams & Wilkins Company 428 E. Preston St., Baltimore (21202), 1972. 698 pages, \$12.75.

THE CRITICALLY ILL CHILD—Diagnosis and Management—Edited by Clement A. Smith, MD. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia (19105), 1972. 276 pages, \$11.75.

DAVIS-CHRISTOPHER TEXTBOOK OF SURGERY—Tenth Edition—Edited by David C. Sabiston, Jr., MD, James B. Duke Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia (19105), 1972. Single Volume, 2135 pages, \$27.50. Two Volume Set, \$35.00.

EARLY CARE OF THE INJURED PATIENT—Committee on Trauma, American College of Surgeons. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia (19105), 1972. 441 pages, with 200 illustrations, \$9.00.

FIFTY YEARS IN NEUROLOGY AND PSYCHIATRY—Abram Elting Bennett, MD, Berkeley, California. Intercontinental Medical Book Corporation, Publisher, 381 Park Avenue South, New York City (10016), 1972. Illustrated, 166 pages, \$9.75.

HEPATITIS AND BLOOD TRANSFUSION—Edited by G. N. Vyas, MD, University of California, School of Medicine, San Francisco, California; Herbert A. Perkins, MD, Irwin Memorial Blood Bank, San Francisco, California; and Rudi Schmid, MD, PhD, University of California, San Francisco. Grune & Stratton, Publishers, 111 Fifth Avenue, New York City (10003), 1972, 428 pages, \$15.00.

LID SURGERY—Current Concepts—Sidney A. Fox, MS (Ophth.), MD, FACS, Quondam Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology, New York University School of Medicine, Grune & Stratton, Publisher, 111 Fifth Avenue, New York City (10003), 1972. 170 pages, \$15.00.

MEDICAL SPECIALTY TERMINOLOGY—X-Ray and Nuclear Medicine—Volume Two—Clara Gene Young, Retired Technical Editor and Writer (Medical), U.S. Civil Service, former Instructor, Medical Terminology, Good Samaritan Hospital, Phoenix; Joseph J. Likos, MD, Chief, Laboratory Service and Nuclear Medicine, Veterans Administration Hospital, Phoenix. The C. V. Mosby Company, 11830 Westline Industrial Drive, St. Louis, Mo. (63141), 1972. 283 pages, with 124 illustrations, \$15.75.

MEDICINE IN A CHANGING SOCIETY—Lawrence Corey, MD, Intern, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan Medical Center, Ann Arbor; Stephen E. Saltman, MD, Intern, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan Medical Center; Michael F. Epstein, MD, Intern, Children's Service, The Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston. The C. V. Mosby Company, 11830 Westline Industrial Drive, St. Louis, Mo. (63141), 1972. 228 pages, \$6.50 (Paperback).

MEMBRANE STRUCTURE AND ITS BIOLOGICAL APPLICATIONS
—Volume 195 of the Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences
—Editor: David E. Green, MD. The New York Academy of Sciences,
2 East 63rd Street, New York City (10021), 1972. 519 pages, no
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MICROBIOLOGY—5th Edition—Edited by Wolfgang K. Joklik, DPhil, James B. Duke Distinguished Professor of Microbiology and Immunology and Chairman, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Duke University School of Medicine; David T. Smith, MD, James B. Duke Distinguished Professor of Microbiology Emeritus, Duke University School of Medicine. Appleton-Century-Crofts, Educational Division, Meredith Corporation, 440 Park Avenue South, New York City (10016), 1972. 1120 pages, \$23.75.

THE PARENTS' GUIDE TO DRUGS—Matthew Andrews. Doubleday & Company, Inc., 100 Park Avenue, New York City (10017), 1972. 186 pages, \$2.50 (Paperback).

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VITRECTOMY IN SEVERELY INJURED EYES

Not many years ago, an 11-year-old boy came into my office with his eyeball cut wide open by an aluminum tent pole. The eye had been cut from the lateral rectus to the medial rectus; the iris and lens had been ripped out; and 98 percent of the vitreous was gone. . . . All that was left of the eye was a retina and a torn cornea.

I took the boy to the operating room, cleaned up the remaining parts of the vitreous, cut it out, cleaned up the wound, did my special potatosack maneuver (held up the eye and then sewed it up with multiple sutures, one every millimeter), and filled it up with air and saline. (I don't use air anymore.) I figured I'd give the eye a ten-day period of grace, and then tell the parents, "Sorry, it has to come out."

But lo and behold, the eye did well. It whitened, the kid could see hand movements.... There was no reason to take it out. By the time the eye healed white, with no red ciliary flush and with a contact lens, he was seeing 20/50. And I see him to this day....

This has not been a solo case. I've done the same thing in a four-year-old child, a five-year-old child, a little girl who slid down the windshield of her father's truck and ripped her eye open with a windshield wiper, in another kid who had a stick jabbed into his eye. We cleaned these eyes out, because to leave lens material and vitreous mixed together is death for an eye. . . .

All this taught me something. These eyes went on and lived. . . . The eyeball can actually live without vitreous. It doesn't need it. I've shown this over and over again subsequently—in amyloidosis cases, in dislocated lens cases, in persistent hyperplastic vitreous cases, in old blood hemorrhage cases where you take the vitreous out completely. The eyes go on to live. . . .

In summary what I've tried to bring out is that to me, the vitreous of the eye can be put in the same category as the appendix. So long as it behaves itself, you can let it alone. But as soon as it threatens the eye, as soon as it becomes an enemy—get rid of it. The second point is that the best way to get rid of it at this time is to cut it out. Aspirating is fine to expedite getting out the fluid vitreous, but if formed vitreous is troubling you, you must cut it. The third point is, you shouldn't fear removing great gobs of vitreous because the eye can get along without it.

-DAVID KASNER, MD, Miami
Extracted from Audio-Digest Ophthalmology,
Vol. 7, No. 22, in the Audio-Digest Foundation's subscription series of tape-recorded programs.

STREPTOCOCCAL PHARYNGITIS IN CHILDREN

(Ideally the clinician should do a throat culture to make the diagnosis of streptococcal pharyngitis in a child complaining of sore throat. But if he's unable or unwilling to do so, there are some clues that will help him determine the likelihood of a strep infection.)

If the child who is over three to five years of age, presents with fever, unequivocal erythema, and exudate (pus) over the tonsillar areas, the probability is 90 percent that he has Group A beta-hemolytic streptococcal pharyngitis-tonsillitis. At the other end of the spectrum, if the child only has mild pharyngitis—that is, complains of sore throat, has slight erythema, but no exudate or fever—then the probability is high that his disease is due to a viral agent and therefore is not treatable. In between the mild and severe pharyngitis, we have the category of moderate pharyngitis, that is, the patient with two of the three characteristics of fever, erythema, and exudate. In these patients, you can flip a coin because about half have streptococcal pharyngitis and are treatable and about half have viral pharyngitis and are untreatable.

There are other factors to be considered in trying to determine whether a given patient with tonsillitis has streptococcal disease. First of all, if a child with tonsillitis-pharyngitis has tender submandibular tonsillar lymph nodes, this is highly indicative of a streptococcal pharyngitis, because with viral pharyngitis we do not usually see early tender enlargement of the tonsillar lymph nodes. On the negative side, if the child has hoarseness associated with tonsillitis or if he has an upper respiratory infection manifested by a seromucoid discharge from the nose, rhinitis, and cough, the likelihood is that he has a viral disease and not streptococcal pharyngitis.

Some people have suggested that the presence of petechiae on the soft palate indicates a streptococcal etiology to the pharyngitis and tonsillitis. This is certainly seen in streptococcal pharyngitis but it is also seen in viral infections involving the tonsils and pharynx and particularly in infectious mononucleosis. Therefore if you're not going to take a culture, I would recommend that all children with severe pharyngitis who have exudate, fever, and erythema be treated as having streptococcal pharyngitis.

-Henry G. Cramblett, Md., Columbus, Ohio Extracted from Audio-Digest Pediatrics, Vol. 15, No. 22, in the Audio-Digest Foundation's subscription series of tape-recorded programs "For the American physician who has an inquisitive mind . . . "*

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